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Report from Matanzas—Inspection of vessels—Precautionary detention of steamship Irisbrook from Tampico—Mortality—Summary of transactions and mortality month of April, 1905.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Nuñez reports, May 2, as follows:

During the week ended April 29, 1905, four bills of health were issued to vessels leaving for United States ports.

The British steamship *Irisbrook*, from Tampico, Mexico, via Cardenas, Cuba, was held in precautionary quarantine for five days while loading sugar at this port. No sickness developed on board this vessel up to April 24, when she cleared for New York direct.

The contagious diseases officially reported during the week were: Scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 1; diphtheria, 1, and measles, 25 new cases with 2 deaths.

The rate of mortality for the last ten days of April is considerably larger than for any similar period, either in the previous year or in the present year, as will be noted by the following statistics:

Mortality, April 20-30, 1905.

Causes of death.	Number of deaths.	Bertillon number.
Arterio-sclerosis	4	81
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	8	27
Grippe	2	10
Lesion of the heart (unqualified).....	2	79
Septicæmia	1	20
Measles	2	6
Enteritis, infantile	4	105
Athrepsia	1	105
Hemorrhage, traumatic.....	2	166
Tetanus, infantile	1	72
Nephritis	1	119
Broncho-pneumonia.....	1	92
Cancer of the uterus	2	42
Syphilis	1	36
Calculus, urinary.....	1	122
Abscess of psoas muscle.....	1	149
Eclampsia, puerperal	1	138
Total.....	35

Annual average of mortality per mille for the 10 days, 26.61; estimated population, 48,000.

Summary of transactions, and mortality, month of April, 1905.

During the month of April, 1905, 20 bills of health were issued to vessels bound for United States ports with a total number of 534 crew, and 104 passengers in transit for several ports in Cuba. No certificates of vaccination were issued for the Canal Zone, nor for the Republic of Panama, as no passengers left during the month for any ports of the above-mentioned territory.

No quarantinable diseases have been reported within this district during the period covered by this report. The local epidemic of measles appears to be gradually abating. Scarlet fever in sporadic cases is still reported in same sections of town. A child in the stage of desquamation from scarlet fever, and who was attending school in that condition, was detected last week walking about the streets. The case evidently had been so mild that no medical aid had been demanded.